GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2144
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2000
SPECIAL ECONOMIC PROCESSING ZONES
AVSM, BRIG.(RETD.) KAMAKHYA PRASAD SINGH DEO

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Special Economic Processing Zones (SEPZ) set up in the country;

(b) whether one such SEPZ was proposed to be set up at Paradeep Port of Orissa;

(c) if so, whether that SEPZ have started functioning;

(d) the procedure adopted in establishment of a SEPZ;

(e) whether notification in this regard has been issued to State Governments; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI OMAR ABDULLAH)

(a) : In the Export and Import Policy (1997-2002) incorporating amendmentsmade upto 31st March, 2000, the Government has announced a policy for setting up of Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in the country.Four existing Export Processing Zones (EPZs) at Kandla(Gujarat), Santacruz, Mumbai (Maharashtra), Cochin (Kerala) and at Surat (Gujarat) have been converted into SEZs or 1.11.2000. In principle approval for 7 more SEZ`s has been given and these are likely to come up in due course.

(b) to (f) : In principle approval has been given for setting up an SEZ at Paradeep, Orissa on the basis of a request received from the Government of Orissa. Formal proposal from the State Government is awaited.

The State Government is required to identify the prospective site, formulate the development strategy including participation of private sector in the development process; give its commitments on state levies etc. and then submit a complete project proposal to the Department of Commerce. The proposal is considered and cleared through an Inter-Ministerial Committee.